

Pregnancy Outcomes

During 1999, 38,748 live births occurred to Kansas residents, representing a birth rate of 14.6 per 1,000 population. There was no change from the 1998 rate. Table 5

In 1999, Seward, Finney, and Geary counties had the highest county birth rates of 25.9, 23.7, and 23.7 births per 1,000 population respectively. Junction City, Dodge City, and Garden City had the highest 1999 city birth rates of 26.7, 26.6, and 26.5 births per 1,000 population respectively. Table 5 Table 6 Figure 11

Geary, Finney and Seward counties had the highest five-year county birth rates of 24.7, 24.6, and 23.8 births per 1,000 population respectively. Table 5

Since 1959, birth rates for Kansas have followed national trends and steadily declined. Kansas birth rates have decreased 41.1 percent during the last 40 years from a rate of 24.8 births per 1,000 population in 1959 to a rate of 14.6 in 1999. In 1999, the Kansas birth rate (14.6) rose above the national rate (14.5) for the first time since 1986. Table 7 Figure 10

Kansas fertility rates have followed national trends and indicate a steady decline from 128.7 to 67.4 births per 1,000 female population aged 15-44 in 1959 and 1999 respectively. The increase in the fertility rate from 68.0 in 1989 to 70.1 in 1990 can be explained, in part, by the use of actual census counts for the 1990 female population. The Kansas fertility rate in 1999 (67.4) was 2.4 percent higher than the national rate of 65.8. Table 7 Figure 12

Age-specific fertility rates for Kansas during the years 1989-1999 decreased 9.3 percent for the 15-24 age-group. Concurrently, age-specific fertility rates increased 17.1 percent for the 25-34 age-group and 31.6 percent for the 35-44 age-group. Table 8 Figure 13

In 1999, 39.9 percent of all Kansas live births occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group, 48.8 percent of live births occurred to women in the 25-34 age-group and 11.1 percent occurred to women in the 35-44 age-group. For comparison, in 1999, 24.9 percent of all Kansas live births had fathers in the 15-24 age-group, 53.6 percent had fathers in the 25-34 age-group, and 19.6 percent had fathers in the 35-44 age group. Table 9 Table 10

Of the births to mothers 10-19 years of age, where the age of the father is known, just over one-third (35.8 percent) of fathers were 10-19 while nearly two-thirds (64.2 percent) of fathers were 20 and over. Table 9

Over eight percent (8.5) of live births in 1999 were preterm (less than 37 completed weeks of gestation) while 92 percent (91.5) occurred at 37 or more weeks of gestation. Table 11

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In 1999, 85.8 percent of all Kansas resident births were to mothers who received prenatal care that began in the first trimester (first 3 months) of pregnancy, 11.3 percent began in the second trimester, and 2.2 percent began in the third trimester. Nearly 1 percent (0.7) received no prenatal care. Table 12

Of the 38,748 Kansas resident live births in 1999, 80.3 percent received adequate or better prenatal care, including 25.3 percent with adequate-plus care; 19.7 percent received less than adequate prenatal care, including 9.2 percent with inadequate care. Table 13

Lincoln county had the highest percentage of mothers with adequate or better prenatal care (94.3 percent) followed by Doniphan (92.6 percent) and Johnson counties (92.1 percent). Ford county had the lowest percentage of adequate or better prenatal care (53.2 percent), followed by Seward (55.6 percent) and Meade counties (57.8 percent). Table 13

In 1999, 81.1 percent of Kansas live births both occurred to women 15-34 years of age and weighed between 2,500-4,499 grams. Table 15

Birth weights for Kansas live births in 1999 were distributed as follows: 7.1 percent of live births weighed under 2,500 grams (low birth weight), 91.2 percent weighed 2,500-4,499 grams (normal birth weight), and 1.7 percent weighed over 4,499 grams (heavy birth weight).
Table 14 Table 15

In 1999, 38.2 percent of Kansas live births were first births. Of the 14,810 first births, 58.0 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. Table 16 Figure 14

In 1999, 89.2 percent of Kansas live births were to white mothers, 7.3 percent were to black mothers, and 3.5 percent were to mothers of other races. Furthermore, 51.9 percent of Kansas live births were male and 48.1 percent were female. Table 17

In 1999, there were 11,068 out-of-wedlock births to Kansas residents. Of those births, 72.2 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. For comparison, in 1989, 71.5 percent of the 7,624 out-of-wedlock births occurred to women in this age group. Table 18

The out-of-wedlock birth ratio has continued an upward trend over the years in both Kansas and the U.S. Out-of-wedlock births comprised 28.6 percent of all live births that occurred to Kansas residents in 1999, a 45.2 percent increase from 19.7 percent of live births in 1989. The out-of-wedlock birth ratio in 1999 was 13.3 percent lower than the U.S. proportion (33.0 percent) of births to unmarried women. Table 1 Figure 15

The pregnancy rate for females ages 10-19 decreased 4.5 percent from 33.4 pregnancies per 1,000 in 1989 to 31.9 in 1999. Teen pregnancy rates for females ages 10-17 decreased 12.1 percent during this same time frame. Table 19 Figure 16

In 1999, 87.3 percent of non-teen mothers of live births received prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy, while only 71.8 percent of teen mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. The percent of teens who received no prenatal care (1.3) was higher than that for non-teens (0.6). Figure 17

Of the births to teenage women in 1999, 83.0 percent were to whites and 14.4 percent were

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to blacks. For comparison, in 1989, 79.2 percent of births to teenage women were to whites and 18.3 percent were to blacks. Figure 18

In 1999, the abortion ratio for Kansas residents was 165.6 abortions per 1,000 live births, an increase of 2.7 percent from the 161.3 ratio in 1991. Ratios increased from 1991 to a high of 186.3 in 1996, then declined for the next three years. Figure 19 Table 22

The abortion ratio for Kansas residents in 1999 varied substantially by age-group. The ratio per 1,000 live births was highest for adolescents-women under 20 years of age. Since 1980, the abortion ratio declined for women in age groups under 20 and above 29. Figure 20

In 1999, 6,416 abortions reported were performed for Kansas residents and 6,029 were performed for non-Kansans. Of the 6,416 resident abortions, 50 occurred out of state. Figure 22 Table 22 Table 24

Of Kansas residents having abortions, 56.0 percent were in the 15-24 age-group, 79.9 percent were unmarried and 77.4 percent were white. Figure 22 Table 23

In 1999, 59.9 percent of all reported abortions occurred prior to nine completed weeks of gestational age. Over fourteen (14.7) percent of teenage women obtained an abortion after 16 weeks gestation, compared to 7.6 percent of women 20 and older. Table 24 Figure 23

Eighty percent of all reported abortions in 1999 were to unmarried women. Among black women, 87.6 percent were unmarried, while 79.3 percent of white women and 73.5 percent of Hispanic women were unmarried. Table 25

Eighty-four percent (84.1) of all reported abortions were performed prior to the 13th week of gestation. Suction curettage was the procedure used in 97.2 percent of these terminations. Only 9.2 percent of induced terminations were performed after 16 weeks gestation, and 50.4 percent of these used dilation and evacuation. Table 27

The percentage of women who obtained an abortion early in pregnancy (less than 9 weeks of gestation) increased with age, and the percentage who obtained an abortion late in pregnancy (greater than 21 weeks of gestation) decreased with age for women up to 20-24 years of age and remained stable in older age-groups. Figure 24